



82917KNM  
Customer No. 01333

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Tiecheng A. Qiao, et al

RANDOM ARRAY OF MICRO-  
SPHERES FOR THE ANALYSIS OF  
NUCLEIC ACIDS

Serial No. 10/036,828

Filed 21 December 2001

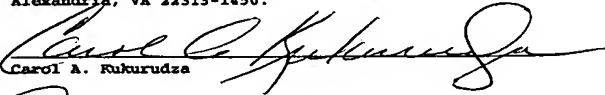
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Betty J. Forman

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited today with the United States Postal  
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Carol A. Fukurudza

  
Date January 19, 2005

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Before consideration of the pending application, and in response to  
the Final Office Action dated 12 November 2004, please amend the above-  
identified application, without prejudice, as set forth below:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.